European Stocks of Americana

Route to California and Oregon, through Minnesota Territory. (St. Paul, 1854) 510.00
Newspaper. Puget Sound Courier (Olympia). Volumes 1-3, 1872-74 367.50
Newspaper. Daily Courier (Olympia). Volume 1, 1877 180.00
Newspaper. Northern Star (Snohomish), Volumes 1, 2, 1876-77 136.00

European Stocks of Americana

The writer has been asked to comment on the European book situation so far as the purchase of Pacific Northwest Americana is concerned. This he will undertake to do, although it should be stated that his efforts of the past summer were directed primarily towards the purchase of complete sets of periodicals and the publications of academies and learned societies.

Obviously, Europe is a poor place to buy American imprints. When found, the price is usually higher than in America. On books published in Europe relating to America, however, one can usually find better stocks and lower prices than in America. The really first class items are becoming scarce even in Europe and are to be had only of the dealers who specialize in Americana. These dealers sell their materials for the most part as soon as found to American patrons on standing orders. A visit to the bookstores of the specialists in American books is most discouraging. Their stocks contain little besides second-rate material which can always be found. The best opportunity to secure bargains is with the large general dealers who do not specialize closely. Here one can often secure standard material in excellent condition and at comparatively low prices.

Additions to the University of Washington Library

It was the writer's privilege during the past summer to purchase several hundred volumes of Americana for the University of Washington Library. The highest prices were encountered with Americana specialists in London, closely followed by dealers in Paris. A considerable amount of excellent material was secured at reasonable prices in Florence, but the lowest prices of all were those of Leipzig. About one hundred volumes were here secured at prices ranging from one dollar down to twelve cents apiece. A considerable number of these were substantial items not listed in the Checklist. The following are sample titles:

Drage, Theodorus Swaine. *The Great Probability of a Northwest Passage.* (London: Jefferys, 1768.)

This is Checklist item number 1934. The value of this particular copy is that it fixes beyond doubt the authorship, which has not been generally known to bibliographers. This copy is a presentation copy bearing the author's complete name in full round hand. Sabin entered the item under the title (Item 28460) with the following note as to authorship, "The author, according to Meusel, was Theodore Swindrage; but is named by Watts, Dragge."

Gianetti, Michelangiolo. *Eloge of Captain James Cook.* Pp. 87. (Florence: Cambiagi, 1785.)

Bilingual, opposite pages in English and Italian. Has also an Italian title page.


A complete set of the rare official edition with atlas. From the Library of Prince August of Prussia, nephew of Frederick the Great. Incomplete set listed in Checklist, item 2109.


Contains in German text many of the standard works of travel, including some items of Northwest interest.